

CLAIMS

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1. A system for managing promotions over a network comprising:
a promotion server system including a computer processor and associated datastore, said datastore containing data representative of terms and statistics of ^{one or more} one or more item promotions; and
a commercial server system including a computer processor, said commercial server system being selectively coupleable to said promotion server system over said network;
wherein said promotion server system includes promotion code for transferring, to said commercial server system, said data representative of the terms and statistics of said promotions.
 - pub 2* 2. The system of claim 1, wherein said promotion server system further includes authorization code for enabling said commercial server system to accept or decline one or more of said promotions.
 3. The system of claim 1, wherein said promotion server system further includes accounting code for providing, to said commercial server system, said statistics of said promotions, said statistics including data representative of one or more of the number of promotions redeemed and the value of the redeemed promotions.
 4. The system of claim 1, wherein said network is the internet.
 5. The system of claim 1, wherein certain of said promotion data in said datastore of said promotion server system is associated with a specific commercial server system and said specific commercial server system can only access said certain of said promotion data associated therewith.

6. The system of claim 2, wherein said authorization code includes screen display data having a promotion search portion for enabling said commercial server system to search for its promotions based on search terms input to said promotion search portion by said commercial server system.

7. The system of claim 1, wherein said promotion code includes screen display data having a promotion search portion for enabling said commercial server system to search for its promotions based on search terms input to said promotion search portion by said commercial server system.

8. The system of claim 3, wherein said accounting code includes screen display data having a promotion search portion for enabling said commercial server system to search for its promotions based on search terms input to said promotion search portion by said commercial server system.

9. The system of claim 8, wherein said accounting code screen display data includes a table having at least one of the total number of promotions redeemed and the total value of the redeemed promotions.

10. The system of claim 9, wherein said accounting code screen display data table includes at least one of the total number of promotions redeemed and the total value of the redeemed promotions for each of a number of days that said promotions are active.

11. The system of claim 1, wherein said promotion data is transferred to said commercial server system in the form of screen display data.

12. A method of managing promotions over a network comprising the steps of:
establishing a connection between a commercial server system and a promotion server system over said network; and

said promotion server system transferring promotion data to said commercial server system over said network, said promotion data including ^{one or more} terms of said promotions and statistics of performances of said promotions.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein said network is the internet.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein said promotion data is transferred to said commercial server system in the form of screen display data.

15. The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of said commercial server system selecting a promotion management option, wherein said promotion server system transfers screen display data to said commercial server system that provides said commercial server system with an option to view said statistics.

16. The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of said commercial server system selecting a promotion management option, wherein said promotion server system transfers screen display data to said commercial server system that provides said commercial server system with an option of pulling one or more of said promotions from an active status.

17. The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of said commercial server system selecting a promotion authorization option, wherein said promotion server system transfers screen display data to said commercial server system that provides said commercial server system with an option of accepting a promotion.

18. The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of said commercial server system selecting a promotion authorization option, wherein said promotion server system transfers screen display data to said commercial server system that provides said commercial server system with an option of declining a promotion.

19. The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of said commercial server system selecting a promotion accounting report option, wherein said promotion server system transfers screen display data to said commercial server system that provides said commercial server system with said statistics that include the dollar value of the promotions redeemed by a client system through said commercial server system.

20. The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of said commercial server system selecting a promotion success report option, wherein said promotion server system transfers screen display data to said commercial server system that provides said commercial server system with said statistics that include a redemption rate of the promotions redeemed by a client system through said commercial server system.

21. A system for managing promotions over a network, comprising:

- A. a promotion server system and associated datastore containing data representative of one or more item promotions;
- B. a commercial server system selectively coupleable to said promotion server system over said network; and
- C. at least one client system selectively coupleable to said commercial server system over said network;

wherein said promotion server system includes:

- i. available promotion code for providing, to said commercial server system, data representative of the identity and terms of one or more of said item promotions; and
- ii. promotion distribution code, responsive to requests from said commercial server system for specific ones of said item promotions, for transmitting said promotion data for said specific item promotions to said commercial server system; and

wherein said commercial server system is responsive to access thereto by one of said client systems, and includes pointer code that points said client system to said promotion data representative of terms of said promotions in said datastore, to transfer said promotion term data to said client system.

22. The system of claim 21, wherein said item promotion data in said data store is associated with a specific commercial server system; and

wherein said available promotion code transmits to said specific commercial server system only item promotion data associated with said specific commercial server system.

23. The system of claim 21, wherein said promotion server system maintains data representative of the identity of said commercial server system and the identity of item promotion data requested by said commercial server system.

24. The system of claim 21, wherein said commercial server system and said client systems include code which enables transactions over said network; and

wherein said commercial server system includes code for transmitting, to said promotion server system, transaction data representative of transactions between said commercial server system and said client systems which involve said item promotions.

25. The system of claim 24, wherein said promotion server system maintains data representative of said transaction data.

26. The system of claim 25, wherein said promotion server system and said commercial server system include code enabling said commercial server system to request information relating to said transaction data and, in response thereto, to adjust the terms of said promotions.

27. The system of claim 21, wherein said network is the internet.

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